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U.S. unsure if alleged killers still stalk Reagan

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Washington—Federal authorities have been unable to determine if the Libyan-trained assassination team reportedly stalking President Reagan and other high government officials has been called off, Attorney General William French Smith said yesterday.

Asked if the threat posed by the so-called "hit team" was over, Mr. Smith said during a breakfast meeting with reporters, "We can't say if it's over. No one can say ... except Col. Muammar Kadhafi," Libya's leader.

Some members of Congress, including Senators Paul E. Tsongas (D, Mass.) and Christopher Dodd (D, Conn.), expressed doubts that the threat posed by the alleged Libyan assassination squad was real.

Mr. Smith said yesterday that in his view the press exaggerated the threat, but added that "a high level of attention may have been good" because it made it more difficult for a plot against the president to

succeed.

During his meeting yesterday with reporters at the Department of Justice, Mr. Smith also touched on other business before the department:

- Although he disagrees with the law requiring him to call for a special prosecutor if allegations against three high Reagan administration officials prove "substantive," he will comply with the law. The three officials who reportedly may face probes by special prosecutors are Labor Secretary Raymond Donovan, National Security Adviser Richard V. Allen and CIA Director William Casey.

Under the 1978 Ethics in Government Act, Mr. Smith has 90 days to investigate each case. Then he must either drop the case because the charges are "so unsubstantiated" that no more investigation is needed, or find that they merit more investigation and ask a federal court panel to name a special prosecutor.

Mr. Smith refused to comment on reports that he would soon request a special

prosecutor in the case of Labor Secretary Donovan.

The allegations against Mr. Donovan involve a 1977 meeting in New York during which Joseph DiCarolis, an executive of the construction firm Mr. Donovan headed before joining the Reagan administration, allegedly gave \$2,000 to Louis Sanzo, head of a New Jersey labor union with reputed ties to organized crime.

Before his confirmation hearings in the Senate, the FBI investigated the allegations and failed to uncover any wrongdoing on the part of Mr. Donovan.

Mr. Allen is on personal leave pending an investigation into his financial affairs and into the circumstances surrounding a gift of two watches from two Japanese women involved in interviewing Nancy Reagan.

Mr. Casey's case was referred to Mr. Smith by the Senate Intelligence Committee, which said Mr. Casey might have broken the law by failing to register as an agent of a foreign government when he

represented Indonesia as a lawyer.

- Despite charges that Haitian refugees are being detained in "concentration camps" after they arrive illegally in this country, they are free to leave the camps at any time.

- The Reagan administration will actively seek to overturn the Supreme Court's 1979 ruling—the "Weber decision"—that allows private employers to use affirmative action programs to favor members of minorities that faced discrimination in the past.

"We are opposed to quotas in any form they present themselves," Mr. Smith said. "If litigation is the way to manifest that policy, we are going to take any route available."

Earlier, William Bradford Reynolds, the assistant attorney general for civil rights, had indicated the Justice Department opposed quota systems to correct past discrimination but did not specifically say the department would oppose such systems voluntarily implemented by private employers.